

**Proposed Substitute
Bill No. 6805**

LCO No. 4408

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE BIRTH-TO-THREE PROGRAM AND
HEARING TESTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) Not later than October
2 1, 2015, the Commissioner of Developmental Services shall require, as
3 part of the birth-to-three program, established under section 17a-248b
4 of the general statutes, that the parent or guardian of a child who is (1)
5 receiving services under the birth-to-three program, and (2) exhibiting
6 delayed speech, language or hearing development, be notified of the
7 availability of hearing testing for such child. Such notification may
8 include, but not be limited to, information regarding (A) the benefits of
9 hearing testing for children, (B) the resources available to the parent or
10 guardian for hearing testing and treatment, and (C) any financial
11 assistance that may be available for such testing.

12 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any child whose
13 parents object to hearing screening as being in conflict with their
14 religious tenets and practice.

15 (c) The Commissioner of Developmental Services may adopt
16 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
17 implement the provisions of subsection (a) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	New section
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